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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/603,665	06/23/2000	Caroline Barry	G-067US03REG	8150
23557	7590	09/22/2004	EXAMINER	
SALIWANCHIK LLOYD & SALIWANCHIK A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION PO BOX 142950 GAINESVILLE, FL 32614-2950			CHUNDURU, SURYAPRABHA	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				1637

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/603,665	BARRY ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Suryaprabha Chunduru	1637	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2004.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 79-126 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 79 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 80-86, 99-102, 104, 105, 121, 126 and 127 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 81-84, 87-98, 103, 106-120, 122-125 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicants' response to the office action filed on June 17, 2004 has been entered and considered.
2. The instant application is filed on June 23, 2000, which claims priority to provisional applications 60/141,323 filed on June 25, 1999 and 60/176,880 filed on January 18, 2000.
3. Claims 79-126 are pending.

Response to arguments

4. Applicants' arguments are fully considered and found not persuasive.
5. The following is the rejection made in the previous office action under 35 USC 102 (b):

Claims 80, 85, 86, 99-102, 104-105, 121, 126-127 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bowcock et al. (WO 98/12327) ('327).

The following rejection is based on the variant at position 2050 of SEQ ID No. 5, which is identical with alanine at position 421 of SEQ ID No. 52 of '327.

Bowcock et al. teach an isolated polypeptide according to claims 80, 85-86, 99 and 127 comprising a contiguous span of 10 amino acids said contiguous span of amino acids comprises an alanine at position 2050 of SEQ ID No. 5 (see pages 287-288, 348, SEQ ID NO. 52, and sequence alignment, the alanine at position 2050 of SEQ ID No. 5 corresponds to alanine of SEQ ID No. 52 of '327 at position 421).

With regard to claims 100-102, Bowcock et al. also teach that the polypeptide comprises at least 100 amino acids in length (see pages 287-288, SEQ ID NO. 52).

With regard to claim claims 104-105, Bowcock et al. teach that the polypeptide is a recombinant polypeptide and the composition comprising polypeptide further comprises a physiologically acceptable carrier (see page 129, lines 8-22);

With regard to claims 121, and 126, Bowcock et al teach an antibody that selectively binds to the polypeptide, which comprises an epitope-containing fragment comprising alanine at position 2050 of SEQ ID No. 5 (see page 104, lines 4-30). Thus the disclosure of Bowcock et al. meets the limitations in the instant claims.

Response to arguments

With regard to the above rejection Applicants' arguments and amendment are fully considered and are found not persuasive. Applicants argue that Bowcock et al. does not teach an isolated and recombinant polypeptide comprising a contiguous span of at least 10 amino acids or at least 40 amino acids or at least 100 amino acids that contain alanine at an amino acid position corresponding to position 2050 of SEQ ID No. 5. Applicants' arguments are fully considered and found not persuasive. Bowcock et al. does teach alanine amino acid at position 2050 of SEQ ID No. 5. (see the sequence alignment) and the sequence of Bowcock comprises contiguous sequences comprising at least 10 or 40 or 100 amino acids. Thus the disclosure of Bowcock et al. does anticipate the limitations in the instant claims.

Conclusion

Claims are 79, 81-84, 87-98, 103, 106-120, 122-125 are free of art.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

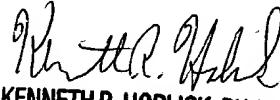
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suryaprabha Chunduru whose telephone number is 571-272-0783. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.30A.M. - 4.30P.M, Mon - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Benzion can be reached on 571-272-0782. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and - for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0196.


Suryaprabha Chunduru
September 15, 2004


KENNETH R. HORLICK, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER

9/20/04